



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Risk
Management
Agency

Beacon Facility –
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Kansas City, MO
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December 4, 2009

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: PM-09-058

TO: All Approved Insurance Providers
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Other Interested Parties

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ *Tim B. Witt*
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Pilot Biotechnology Endorsement (BE) and Insurance Standards
Handbook (Handbook) Effective for the 2010 and Succeeding Crop Years

BACKGROUND:

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) has amended the Pilot BE, Handbook, and related materials for the 2010 and succeeding crop years. In accordance with Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board of Director actions, the Pilot BE and Handbook have been amended to add (1) Colorado to the pilot area; (2) new technology as a qualifying hybrid; and (3) irrigated corn for grain as an eligible practice. However, not all hybrids are eligible in all states.

A training DVD regarding the collection and submission of plant tissue samples for trait expression testing is being developed. This DVD and the required collection materials will be available to order, at no charge to the AIP. RMA will notify the AIPs as soon as the DVD and collection materials are available for order.

AIPs that offered the Pilot BE in 2009 and that will continue to offer it for the 2010 crop year do not have to notify RMA unless their designated representative(s) have changed. AIPs that previously did not offer the Pilot BE but will offer it for the 2010 crop year must notify RMA of such and their designated representative by January 29, 2010. These required notifications must be e-mailed to DirectorPDD@rma.usda.gov.

The Pilot BE and Handbook will be placed on the RMA website by close of business today.

DISPOSAL DATE:

December 31, 2010.



The Risk Management Agency Administers
And Oversees All Programs Authorized Under
The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

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